

Remarks

Claims 5-18 and 20-25 are pending in the instant application. In the present amendment, claims 5 and 9 are amended to delete the expression "an outer shape of approximately" from claims 5 and 9. Support for this amendment is found in the application as filed, particularly at page 7, lines 7-9, and also and in particular in claim 19 as originally filed. Claim 19 depends from claim 9. No new matter has been added by the current amendment.

Entry of the instant amendment is proper because it places the pending claims in better condition for allowance and/or appeal. Further, as noted above, no new matter is presented, nor do they present additional claims for consideration. Therefore, entry of the instant amendment is respectfully requested.

Claim rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 5-18 and 20-25 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, for failure to comply with the written description requirement. Specifically, claims 5 and 9 were said to state that the outer shape of the chamber is approximately a cuboid. The Office Action stated that the specification provides support for a chamber with an inner cuboid shape, but none for an outer cuboid shape. The rejection is made moot by the deletion of the objected expression in claims 5 and 9. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112 is respectfully requested.

Applicants respectfully submit that all outstanding rejections have been cured with the current reply and that no further search or examination is necessary. Entry of the amendment is therefore respectfully requested.

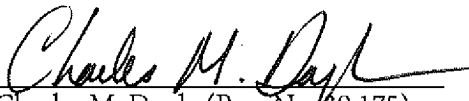
Conclusion:

It is believed that claims as amended are in condition for allowance. The mailing date of the Final Office Action was March 6, 2005. This after-Final response is submitted within two months after the mailing date. MPEP 706.07(f). No fee is believed to be due for entry of the instant amendment. However, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-0812.

If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, he may telephone the undersigned directly at 925-730-8554.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: May 5, 2008

  
Charles M. Doyle (Reg. No. 39,175)

Roche Molecular Systems, Inc.  
4300 Hacienda Drive  
Pleasanton, CA 94588  
Tele: (925) 730-8554  
Fax: (925) 225-1128